



County of Los Angeles  
**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

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DAVID E. JANSSEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors  
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Fifth District

November 6, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

**STATUS OF AUGUST 5, 2003 BOARD MOTION ON BROWNFIELDS POLICY**

On August 5, 2003, your Board, on motion of Supervisor Molina, as amended by Chair Burke and Supervisor Antonovich, instructed the Chief Administrative Office, the Department of Public Works, the Community Development Commission, County Counsel, the Department of Regional Planning, and the Department of Health Services to review the brownfields policies used by San Diego and San Francisco Counties and the City of Oakland. Your Board further instructed these departments to develop a County brownfields policy and risk-based screening and assessment process, and to incorporate in the policy review the provisions contained in SB 32 (Escutia) and SB 493 (Cedillo) regarding liability reform issues.

Staff from these departments and the Fire Department have met and are studying the complex and overlapping Federal, State, and local brownfields assessment and development programs. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), California Pollution Control Finance Authority, and other agencies and jurisdictions have been contacted. In addition, the assessment guidelines developed by San Diego County and the City of Oakland are being examined to determine the applicability to guidelines for the County of Los Angeles.

To assist in these efforts, a contract is being prepared with the consultant who developed the brownfields policies for the Cities of Emeryville, Oakland, and San Diego and advised Senator Escutia on SB 32. The consultant will assist in the development of a policy which will:

- Include appropriate and applicable screening levels;

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- Identify appropriate testing standards for Phase I and Phase II site investigations in the context of acquiring new properties and completing preliminary site remediation budgets for the development or sale of brownfields properties;
- Determine which environmental agency or County department should assume the oversight role on different types of sites and will also establish the framework for a partnering relationship under which the oversight agency will work with other County departments to streamline the decision-making process for brownfields properties;
- Ensure an appropriate linkage between brownfields policies and procedures with CEQA requirements; and
- Identify viable funding sources for assessment activities.

A timetable for this project will be available in 30 days and will subsequently be shared with your Board. If you have any questions, please contact me or your staff may contact Robert Moran or Jan Takata of this office at (213) 974-1130 and (213) 974-1360, respectively.

DEJ:LS  
MZK:RM:nl

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Fire Chief  
Director and Chief Medical Officer of Health Services  
Director of Planning  
Director of Public Works  
Executive Director, Community Development Commission